

THE CLAIMS:

1. to 11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously Presented) A moving image processing method for dividing a moving image sensed between a beginning of recording and an ending of recording, on the basis of a plurality of items of additional data which indicate states upon sensing the moving image, wherein the additional data is added to the moving image and is able to be read out for each item from the moving image, comprising:

a generation step of defining an item group formed of one or a plurality of items selected from the plurality of items, and generating division information corresponding to the item group on the basis of the additional data of the items which belong to the item group;

a hierarchization step of hierarchizing a plurality of division information generated for each item group, and of adding division positions based on division information of an upper layer to division positions of division information of a lower layer, wherein the plurality of division information is hierarchized and the division positions are added in a case that the plurality of division information is generated in the generation step in correspondence with a plurality of item groups; and

a holding step of holding the division information obtained in the hierarchization step in correspondence with the moving image data in a memory.

13. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 12, further comprising a setting step of setting the hierarchical order of the plurality of pieces of division information on the basis of division counts of the division information.

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 13, wherein the setting step includes a step of setting division information with a smaller division count to have a higher hierarchical order.

15. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 12, wherein the hierarchical order of the plurality of pieces of division information is set according to a hierarchical order which is set in advance for respective item groups.

16. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 12, further comprising a designation step of designating the hierarchical order of the plurality of pieces of division information.

17. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 12, further comprising:

a representative image generation step of generating and holding representative images which represent respective intervals of a moving image that are specified by division information of respective layers obtained in the hierarchization step; and

a display step of displaying, when one interval of one layer is designated, representative images of intervals included in the designated interval in a layer lower than the one layer.

18. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 17, further comprising an execution step of executing a predetermined process for an interval of a moving image, which corresponds to a representative image selected from the representative images displayed in the display step.

19. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 12, further comprising a storage step of storing the division information obtained in the hierarchization step in a storage medium in correspondence with the moving image data.

20. (Original) The method according to claim 12, wherein the item group includes one of an environment upon sensing an image, a sensed subject, a subject size upon sensing an image, and an effect applied to a moving image.

21. (Previously Presented) A moving image processing apparatus for dividing a moving image sensed between a beginning of recording and an ending of recording, on the basis of a plurality of items of additional data which indicate states upon sensing the moving image, wherein the additional data is added to the moving image and is able to be read out for each item from the moving image, comprising:

a generation unit constructed to define an item group formed of one or a plurality of items selected from the plurality of items, and generating division information corresponding to the item group on the basis of the additional data of the items which belong to the item group;

a hierarchization unit constructed to hierarchize a plurality of division information generated for each item group, and constructed to add division positions based on division information of an upper layer to division positions of division information of a lower layer, wherein the plurality of division information is hierarchized and the division positions are added in a case that the plurality of division information is generated by the generation unit in correspondence with a plurality of item groups; and

a holding unit constructed to hold the division information obtained by said hierarchization unit in correspondence with the moving image data.

22. (Original) A computer readable recording medium recording a control program which makes a computer execute a moving image processing method of claim 12.

23. (Previously Presented) A computer-executable control program stored on a computer-readable medium, for making a computer execute the moving image processing method of claim 12.